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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Fisher et al.

Serial No.: 10/070,524

Filed: March 6, 2002

For: Orthopaedic Joint Prosthesis

) Attorney Docket No.: 1781-0003

) Urquhart-Dykes Ref. No. SJB/P11427US

) Examiner: To be assigned

) Group Art Unit: To be assigned

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November 25, 2002

Date of Signature

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants hereby disclose the following reference, a copy of which is enclosed (along with an English language Abstract), regarding the above-identified patent application.

Foreign Patent Number
DE 38 40 466 A1

Country
Germany

Issue Date
07/06/1990

The foregoing reference is also listed on the PTO-1449 Form, which is submitted contemporaneously herewith.

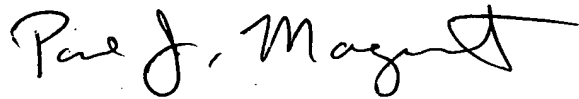
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), Applicant's undersigned representative submits the following concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document cited on the accompanying form PTO-1449:

German Patent DE 38 40 466 A1 relates to rotating and oscillating special cutters for use in implant technology (endoprosthetics), for recesses (cutouts) for the production of permanent anchorage of the components. With the anchorage elements conventionally employed in implant technology (endoprosthetics) there is a problem with regard to permanent stability of the anchorage components. Atrophy and wear of a bone and, in particular, tensile loads frequently lead to premature loosening of the components anchored in the bone. Cutouts are therefore provided in which the cavity has a larger cross-section or diameter at depth than in the entry region of the cavity. In order to produce these recesses the invention provides special cutters in which the cross-section or the diameter in the region of the cutting sections can be increased during the cutting operation, so that recesses as described above are thereby produced. Technically, this problem is solved in that the envelope curve of curved cutter plates is varied, preferably by displacement of adjustable, e.g. bushing like, elements along the axis of rotation, and in that cutter plates are spread out like fins from guides, preferably by means of a linkage which can be displaced in a defined manner along the axis of rotation, so that as a result the particular cutting cross-section can be increased by exactly adjustable elements.

It is believed that no fees are due for the consideration of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0014, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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